

### Listing of the Claims

1. (currently amended) An active information model stored in an information system comprising: (a) at least one personal information portal having access to an active engine, an information service, and a persistent storage service, (b) said active engine associated with at least one data source ~~datasource~~, at least one workflow, and at least one relation; said active agent being related to an individual's role within at least one enterprise, (c) said at least one relation associated with a rule and an association, said at least one relation characterizing the relationship between elements of the at least one data source, the association declaring a relationship exists between two or more elements of the at least one data source, and the rule embodying the association, (d) said at least one workflow associated with a command and an action, (e) said at least one ~~datasource~~ data source associated with a category, wherein the active information model improves over time by being adaptable to emerging technologies and changing business needs and incorporating knowledge of the roles of the individual and the at least one workflow within the at least one enterprise to reflect ~~more sophisticated~~ needs of the individual, allowing at all times for different parts of the at least one enterprise to be at different levels of operational and technological maturity or obsolescence.

2. (currently amended) An active information model for an enterprise comprising:  
  
at least one personal information portal wherein the personal information portal indicates an individual within the enterprise and comprises:

a storage mechanism configured to store a role and information including information about the role and a definition of the role of the individual wherein the role indicates first relationships of the individual with sources of the information and with at least one function that the individual performs within the enterprise; and

an active agent configured to retrieve the role from the storage mechanism, exchange the information with the storage mechanism and the sources of information based on the role, and process the information based on the role to improve the active information model over time by being adaptable to emerging technologies and changing business needs and incorporating knowledge of the role of the individual and workflow within the enterprise to reflect ~~more sophisticated~~ needs of ~~[[an]]~~ the individual.

3. (original) The active information model of claim 2 wherein the role further comprises a plurality of categories of the sources of information wherein the categories define access to and treatment of the information.

4. (original) The active information model of claim 2 wherein the role indicates second relationships between elements in the information.

5. (original) The active information model of claim 2 wherein the role comprises workflow that indicates movement of the information between the sources.

6. (original) The active information model of claim 5 wherein the workflow comprises a plurality of commands that move the information between the sources.

7. (original) The active information model of claim 5 wherein the workflow comprises a plurality of actions that modifies the information.

8. (original) The active information model of claim 2 wherein the active agent is configured to establish connections with the sources of the information based on the role.

9. (original) The active information model of claim 2 wherein the active agent is configured to log events that the active agent has performed in the storage mechanism.

10. (original) The active information model of claim 2 wherein the active agent comprises a provider interface configured to establish connections with the sources of the information based on the role.

11. (original) The active information model of claim 2 wherein the active agent comprises a consumer interface configured to establish connections with the sources of the information based on the role.

12. (original) The active information model of claim 2 wherein the active agent comprises an executive interface configured to exchange and process the information based on the role.

13. (currently amended) A method of operating an active information model for an enterprise to improve a simple active information model over time to reflect ~~more sophisticated~~ needs of an individual by being adaptable to emerging technologies and changing business needs and incorporating knowledge of the roles of individuals and workflow within an enterprise from the perspective of its users, wherein the active information model comprises at least one personal information portal that indicates an individual within the enterprise, the method comprising:

storing a role of the individual in a storage mechanism within the personal information portal wherein the role indicates first relationships of the individual with sources of information and functions that the individual performs within the enterprise;

in an active agent included within the personal information portal, retrieving the role of the individual from the storage mechanism;

in the active agent, exchanging the information with the storage mechanism and the sources of the information based on the role; and

in the active agent, processing the information based on the role.

14. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the role further comprises a plurality of categories of the sources of information wherein the categories define access to and treatment of the information.

15. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the role indicates second relationships between elements in the information.

16. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the role comprises workflow that indicates movement of the information between the sources.

17. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the workflow comprises a plurality of commands that move the information between the sources.

18. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the workflow comprises a plurality of actions that modifies the information.

19. (original) The method of claim 13 further comprising:  
in the active agent, establishing connections with the sources of the information based on the role.

20. (original) The method of claim 13 further comprising:  
in the active agent, logging events that the active agent has performed in the storage mechanism.

21. (currently amended) A software product stored in at least one computer readable medium for operating an active information model for an enterprise, wherein the active information model improves over time by being adaptable to emerging technologies and changing business needs and incorporating knowledge of roles of individuals and workflow within an enterprise to reflect ~~more sophisticated~~ needs of the enterprise, allowing at all times for different parts of the enterprise to be at different levels of operational and technological maturity or obsolescence, wherein the active information model comprises at least one personal information portal that indicates an individual within the enterprise and comprises a storage mechanism and an active agent, the software product comprising:

active agent software operational when executed by a processor to direct the processor to retrieve ~~a role~~ at least one of the roles of the individuals from the storage mechanism, exchange information with the storage mechanism and sources of the information based on the role, and process the information based on the role wherein the role indicates first relationships of the individual with the sources of the information and functions that the individual performs within the enterprise; and

a software storage medium operational to store the active agent software.

22. (original) The software product of claim 21 wherein the role further comprises a plurality of categories of the sources of information wherein the categories define access to and treatment of the information.

23. (original) The software product of claim 21 wherein the role indicates second relationships between elements in the information.

24. (original) The software product of claim 21 wherein the role comprises workflow that indicates movement of the information between the sources.

25. (original) The software product of claim 24 wherein the workflow comprises a plurality of commands that move the information between the sources.

26. (original) The software product of claim 24 wherein the workflow comprises a plurality of actions that modifies the information.

27. (original) The software product of claim 21 wherein the active agent software is operational when executed by the processor to establish connections with the sources of the information based on the role.

28. (original) The active information model of claim 21 wherein the active agent software is operational when executed by the processor to log events that the active agent has performed in the storage mechanism.